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Discussion Paper on the Future Format of the Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science

By NAFO Secretariat

Background

From 2000-2004, articles of the Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fishery Science (NAFO Journal) were placed on the NAFO website in pdf format prior to their publication in print. The procedure to give access to articles *in press* on the web is also used by the ICES Journal of Marine Science. In the case of the NAFO Journal, however, it created a few difficulties, most importantly that

- (a) many articles were accessible as *in press* for a long time because of the irregular appearance of the NAFO Journal (more than a year interval in many cases); and
- (b) in the case of Symposia volumes, the pagination had to be performed in the order in which the articles were finalized and not according to sessions. This resulted in an unsatisfactory structure of the printed NAFO Journal e.g. vol. 31.

In June 2004, Scientific Council recommended that "the Secretariat begin the electronic publication of HTML versions of the Journal" (in addition to the pdf version). At the same time Scientific Council recognized the potential problem of citing individual papers in two (or more) ways (in electronic html, electronic pdf, and hard copy formats) and asked that this be discussed at the June 2005 STACPUB Meeting. In June 2005 no satisfactory solution to this problem could be presented and STACPUB therefore recommended that "we continue to publish Journal papers on-line under the name Journal of Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Science and the printed journal be given up". However, the Committee recognized the importance of the opinion of the Associate Editors of the Journal and thus asked that the status quo continue until the Chair of STACPUB conferred with the Associate Editors. As by September 2005 some Associate Editors had voiced strong objections to eliminating the printed version of the Journal, the status quo has remained in effect and the matter is on the agenda of the Scientific Council meeting in June 2006.

Recommended Practices

It is important to many members of the Scientific Council that the printed version of the NAFO Journal be maintained. However, it is also recognized that, in the case of the NAFO Journal, a timely publication of individual articles can only be achieved on the web. So, how can NAFO maintain both formats as fully citable articles without appearing to publish two different Journals?

Most of the large publishers, including NRC Research Press, now recognise the electronic publication (html or pdf) as the primary publication of an article, even when there is an obvious hardcopy print prescence

e.g. CJFAS. The electronic pdf has exactly the same volume number, pagination and format as the printed version. Application of these practices would eliminate the citation difference for the NAFO Journal.

The proposed procedures are described below:

- 1. DOI (Digital Object Identifier). The DOI is a code that specifies the location of a file in the electronic domain. It is now accepted and used by many of the large publishers and tracks a file even if the URL changes. The DOI is purchased from and managed by CrossRef in North America. It has two parts: The first identifies the publisher (fixed; assigned by CrossRef) and the second identifies the article (flexible, assigned by the publisher). If NAFO would introduce a DOI for its Journal publications, the DOI would always constitute the end part of any citation of Journal articles (whether referencing the electronic or the printed version). This policy is already followed by the CJFAS and the ICES Journal.
- 2. Publication date of an article. In order to avoid multiple citations, all formats have a single citation that refers back to its first publication date (i.e. usually the electronic version). This means that Journal articles pertaining to one volume will have different publication dates and possibly different years of publications. However, this is now widely accepted.
- **3.** Pagination of Symposium volumes. This problem can be solved by numbering introductory pages of the volume (preface, index, etc.) with small roman numbers (i, ii, iii,...) and then by adding a letter to each session (A, B, C, ...) and re-starting numbering at each session (A1, A2, A3, ..., B1, B2, B3, ..., etc.). This approach would allow pagination of the electronic articles as they become available without sacrificing a satisfactory structure of the printed version. Also, pagination of the electronic version (pagination is even accepted for html formats) would eliminate the requirement of the article number currently included in the electronic NAFO articles.

To illustrate how the described procedures if adopted would influence the layout and citation of NAFO Journal articles, examples are provided in annexes 1 to 3:

- Annex 1: First page of an article in pdf (identical with the printed version) including publication (upload) date, DOI and citation suggestion.
- Annex 2: First part of an article in html format including publication (upload) date, DOI and citation sugestion.
- Annex 3: Suggested layout of new electronic volume contents.

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Atmospheric and Sea-Ice Conditions in the Northwest Atlantic During the Decade, 1991–2000

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Abstract

Atmospheric and sea ice conditions within the Northwest Atlantic during the decade 1991-2000 are described. The NAO index in the 1990s was the highest in the past 11 decades and there has been a general increase from the minimum of the 1960s. The high NAO in the 1990s was accompanied by an increase in southwesterly winds in the Labrador Sea region. With the exception of Nuuk, mean decadal air temperatures were above their long-term means at selected sites throughout the NAFO area, including record high decadal means in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and at Cape Hatteras. Air temperatures have generally been increasing since the 1960s from the Scotian Shelf northward. Sea-ice conditions off the Labrador and northern Newfoundland coast, in the Gulf of St. Lawrence and the Scotian Shelf incid d€ of St. Lawrence rom there was little differen r, on the Scotian Shelf the ice area les. The decadal mean of the number of i rifting souther ewfoundland shelves was at a maximum du Os. There ty in all climate indices examined. The early years of the 1990s were characterized by high NAO indices, strong northwesterly winds, cold air temperatures from the Labrador Sea to the Gulf of Maine, and extensive ice cover. In 1996, the NAO index experienced its largest annual decline in the over 100-year record. During the remaining years of the 1990s decade, the NAO rose achieving values that even exceeded those of the early years of the 1990s. Of significance during the latter half of the decade was the eastward shift in the center of the atmospheric low-pressure system over the Northwest Atlantic. This shift contributed to weaker northwesterly winds, warmer temperatures in the Labrador Sea to the Gulf of Maine, and a reduction in sea-ice.

Key words: 1990s, climate, icebergs, sea-ice, temperatures, NAO, pressure, wind

Introduction

The atmospheric and sea ice conditions in the NAFO area of the Northwest Atlantic are known to undergo variability over a range of time scales from days to centuries. The largest variance typically is at the annual cycle. For example, it accounts for >85% of the total variability in the time series of monthly mean air temperatures. Although smaller than the annual cycle, there still is significant variance at time scales from greater than one year to tens of years. While there is nothing special in nature about multiples of 10, decadal reviews of climate conditions or progress within a certain field is common. NAFO has a long tradition of decadal or near decadal reviews, beginning with a review of the 1950s. While it is useful to regularly review environment conditions in an attempt to synthesize events and to clarify our thinking, it must be remembered that many of the climate trends and processes have much longer time scales than the 10-year periods.

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Annex 2: First part of an article in html format including publication (upload) date, DOI and citation suggestion.



The atmospheric and sea ice conditions in the NAFO area of the Northwest Atlantic are known to undergo variability over a range of time scales from days to centuries. The largest variance typically is at the annual cycle. For example, it accounts for >85% of the total variability in the time series of monthly mean air temperatures. Although smaller than the annual cycle, there still is significant variability and the time series of the second sec

Annex 3: Suggested layout of new electronic volume contents.

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